

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The status of the claims is noted below.

Claims 1-4 (Canceled).

5. (New) An imaging apparatus comprising:

a memory for storing at least one page of image data;

a readout section for reading out N pixels of the image data for a plurality of times from the memory to read out the entire page of image data, each of the reading out of N pixel image data being conducted in a vertical or horizontal direction, each of the vertical or horizontal reading out being conducted by horizontally reading out N pixels of image data in every line or by vertically reading out N pixels of image data in every column;

a delay section comprising a series of buffer memories that are serially connected for storing N pixels of image data, the delay section receiving input of image data read out by the readout section to one end of the series of buffer memories and outputting delayed image data from each of the buffer memories; and

a section for conducting signal processing of image data in the horizontal or vertical direction by weighting and compositing the image data outputted from each of the buffer memories.

6. (New) The imaging apparatus according to claim 5, wherein:

each of the buffer memories has a memory capacity less than an amount of data in single horizontal line of one page image data stored in the memory.

7. (New) The imaging apparatus according to claim 5, wherein:

the readout section conducts the vertical or horizontal reading out the entire page of image data by horizontally or vertically reading out N pixels of image data with redundantly

reading out at least 2 horizontal or vertical pixels.

8. (New) An imaging method, comprising the steps of:

storing at least one page of image data in a memory;

reading out N pixels of the image data for a plurality of times from the memory to read out the entire page of image data, each of the reading out of N pixel image data being conducted in a vertical or horizontal direction, each of the vertical or horizontal reading out being conducted by horizontally reading out N pixels of image data in every line or by vertically reading out N pixels of image data in every column;

receiving input of the N pixels of read out image data;

storing to one end of a series of serially connected buffer memories comprising a delay section, N pixels of image data;

outputting delayed image data from each of the buffer memories; and

processing of image data in the horizontal or vertical direction by weighting and compositing the image data outputted from each of the buffer memories.

9. (New) The imaging method according to claim 8, wherein:

each of the buffer memories has a memory capacity less than an amount of data in single horizontal line of one page image data stored in the memory.

10. (New) The imaging method according to claim 5, further comprising the step of:

vertically or horizontally reading out the entire page of image data by horizontally or vertically reading out N pixels of image data with redundantly reading out at least 2 horizontal or vertical pixels.

**IN THE DRAWINGS:**

Please amend Figure 1 by inserting the PRIOR ART legend thereon as shown in the accompanying replacement drawing sheet.